Thursday, December 6, 2007

Public Works RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 26

Subject: Approve a resolution authorizing the fee simple acquisition of Lot 3 and 4, Block 1, Lincoln Gardens, Section 1, Travis County, Texas, located at 1400 Fort Branch Boulevard, Austin, Texas, from Fidelity Bank for the Fort Branch Reach 6 and 7 Streambank and Flood Control Project, as part of a voluntary buyout for a total amount not to exceed \$78,533.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Capital Budget of the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Lauraine Rizer 974-7078, Robin Field 974-7064

The City of Austin Watershed Protection and Development Review Department completed a comprehensive study to prioritize solutions related to flooding, erosion and water quality in the Lower Fort Branch Watershed Management Area. The City is in the design phase of a project to reduce flood and erosion damages along the creek corridor. The project includes a combination of structural and non-structural measures such as upgrading the culvert at Fort Branch Boulevard, streambank stabilization and property acquisitions for damage reduction.

The design will require permanent use of the land at 1400 Fort Branch Boulevard Austin, Travis County, Texas. An independent third-party appraisal has established the fair-market value of the property at \$78,533. The owners have agreed to accept the City of Austin's offer for a fee simple acquistion of the property.